PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny	/s/	s
/d/	d (init.)	/ŋ/	ŋ	/z/	z
	r (med.)			/l/	l
/tʃ/	ch			/w/	w
/ʤ/	j			/y/	y
/k/	k				
/g/	g				
/i/	i			/u/	u
/ɩ/	e			/ʊ/	o
/e/	ei			/o/	o
/ɛ/	ɛ			/ɔ/	ɔ
		/ə/	e/a (acc. to position)		
		/a/	a		

/V:/ VV (ɩ: = ee; ʊ: = oo)

Tone:

High tone is indicated on a few particles, e.g.

bá	future negative
wó	future affirmative
á	2nd pl pronoun (short form)

EXAMPLES

a	na	water
b	bu	child
ch	chaara	(early) millet
d	dana	to be strong
e	mena	millet
ei	vwei	shelter
ɛ	dɛ	sticks
f	fuga	ten
g	gaa	grass, bush
i	diga	room
j	jeri	to transplant
k	kaane	woman
l	luu	clock, (iron)
m	mage	to hit
n	na	water
ny	nyɔ	to drink
ŋ	ŋwana	rope
o	bolo	valley
ɔ	tɔgɔ	duiker
p	pɛ	chief
r	dera	round room
s	sara	mat
t	to	to fall
u	nu	mother
v	vɔrɔ	hoe
w	waara	bricks
y	yaga	market
z	zage	to cut

ALPHABET

a b ch d e ei ɛ f g i j k l m n ny ŋ o ɔ p r s t u v w y z

number of graphemes 27

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